

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Bujold on 01/28/08.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

- Claim 31, line 2, "a" (second occurrence) has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 31, line 3, "a" has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 31, line 4, "an" has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 32, line 3, "a" has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 33, line 4, "a" has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 33, line 5, "the" has been changed to --a--.
- Claim 34, line 3, "a" (both occurrences) have been changed to --the--.
- Claim 34, line 4, "a" has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 37, line 3, "a" has been changed to --the--.
- Claim 38, line 3, "a" has been changed to --the--.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claim 22 has been amended to include the indicated allowable subject matter in claim 28. Claims 40 and 41 were

indicated allowable and have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 22. The prior art of record does not disclose or render obvious a motivation to provide for an automatic gearbox for a vehicle having a hydraulically actuated shifting element made as a transmission clutch, which has inner and outer disk carriers, wherein the outer disk carrier is connected to a first gearbox component and the inner disk carrier is connected to a rotating second gearbox component via a synchronization device as defined by the limitations of claims 22, 40 and 41. Claim 22 further requires a second actuation piston for actuating the synchronization device axially guided by a common actuation cylinder, and the second actuation piston together with a first actuation piston pressurizing the inner and outer disks of the transmission clutch. Claim 40 further requires a hydrodynamic locking device for a first actuation piston being released when one of a frictional positive-lock connection exists between the second gearbox component that is to be immobilized and the first gearbox component that is fixed to the housing. Claim 41 further requires an electric switch being mechanically actuated for turning a flow of lubricant on or off by a first or second actuation piston and by a second actuator of the synchronization device.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ha D. Ho whose telephone number is 571-272-7091. If attempts

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to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/HDH/
(571) 272-7091
January 30, 2008

/Ha D. Ho/
Primary Examiner, A.U. 3681